

# INTRODUCTION

## Mission Statement

***The Mission of the Community Health Council is to determine the health needs of the community and develop a plan of action for improving the health status of people in Tipton County, Tennessee.***

## COUNTY DESCRIPTION

### Land Area

Tipton County comprises 459 square miles located on the banks of the Mississippi River bordered by Shelby County to the south, Lauderdale County to the north and Haywood County to the east. The county was organized in 1823 and named for Jacob Tipton who led the defense of the Northwest Territory from Indian attack in the late 1700s.

Tipton County is the third most populous and the fastest growing county in West Tennessee. About 1,800 families per year are moving to Tipton County. The county seat of Covington is a thriving community of 7,487. Tipton County has many other incorporated towns including Munford, Mason, Gilt-Edge, Garland, Drummonds, Burlison, Brighton and Atoka.

## ECONOMIC BASE

A reliable workforce, excellent quality of life, and outstanding industrial support services have led to an extended period of economic growth in Tipton County. Primary employers in the community include Charms Company (candy), World Color Press (magazines), Mueller Copper Fittings (brass & copper mill products), Delfield Company (freezers) and Paslode Corporation (metal nails). Many of the newer residents of the county commute to adjacent Shelby County to work but choose to live and raise their children in Tipton County.

Agriculture remains an important part of the economy. Local crops include corn, cotton, forestry, orchards, peppers, soybeans, squash, and wheat. Cotton and corn are the leading crops. Tipton County is also a leading pig producer in Tennessee.

Tourism and recreation are fast becoming the leading industries in the community. Recreational opportunities include hunting, fishing, boating, swimming, and golf. Tipton County is home to 310 acre Glenn Springs Lake and the Hatchie River – the only natural scenic river in West Tennessee.